

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A device control device for controlling a plurality of devices, each being controlled by use of numerical parameters, the device control device comprising:

constant storage means that stores in advance a phrase and a predetermined constant in association with each other;

speech recognition means that acquires speech data representing a speech, and performs speech recognition on said speech data, thereby specifying a candidate for a phrase represented included by said speech and computes a likelihood for each specified candidate; and

device control means that specifies those devices which are controllable of said plurality of devices, and an amount of change of said numerical parameter based on the predetermined constant associated with the specified phrase and the likelihood that have been computed by said speech recognition means, and changes the numerical parameter by the specified amount of change to thereby control the specified devices, wherein a variable to be changed to obtain a result desired by an utterer or said speech, a direction in which said variable is to be changed, and a device which is to be controlled to change said variable, based on said candidate specified by said speech recognition means and data indicating statuses of a plurality of external devices to be controlled, and controls said specified device in such a way as to change said specified variable in said specified direction, wherein

said device control means

said device control means controls a device when a number of said specified devices which are controllable in such a way as to change said specified variable in said specified direction is one, and

when there are a plurality of devices specified, controllable in such a way as to change said specified variable in said specified direction, specifies which one of said controllable devices is desired to be operated based on a candidate specified by further acquisition of speech

~~data by~~ said speech recognition means further acquires speech data to specify a candidate for the phrase and computes the likelihood, and

said device control means specifies any one of the devices that are controllable, based on the predetermined constant associated with the specified phrase and likelihood computed by said speech recognition means, and controls said specified device.

2. (Currently Amended) The device control device according to claim 1, wherein when there are a plurality of devices specified controllable in such a way as to change said specified variable in said specified direction, said device control means outputs data prompting a user to utter a speech that specifies any one of ~~determination of which one of~~ said controllable devices ~~is desired to be operated~~.

3. (Currently Amended) The device control device according to claim 1, wherein said candidate for the phrase specified by said speech recognition means represents a meaning of increasing or decreasing said numerical parameter; rise or lower, one of said plurality of ~~controllable~~ devices is an audio device, and a numerical parameter for controlling said audio device is a sound volume; variable to be changed is a volume, and

another device is a power window, and a ~~variable to be changed~~ numerical parameter for controlling said power window is an opening/closing amount of a window.

4. (Currently Amended) The device control device according to claim 1, wherein said candidate for the phrase specified by said speech recognition means represents a meaning of increasing or decreasing said numerical parameter; rise or lower, one of said plurality of ~~controllable~~ devices is an air conditioner, and a ~~variable to be changed~~ numerical parameter for controlling said air conditioner is a temperature, and another device is a power window, and a ~~variable to be changed~~ numerical parameter for controlling said power window is an opening/closing amount of a window.

5. (Currently Amended) The device control device according to claim 1, wherein

said candidate for the phrase specified by said speech recognition means represents a meaning of increasing or decreasing said numerical parameter; rise or lower,
one of said plurality of ~~controllable~~ devices is an air conditioner, and a ~~variable to be changed~~ numerical parameter for controlling said air conditioner is a temperature, and another device is an audio device, and a ~~variable to be changed~~ numerical parameter for controlling said audio device is a volume.

6. (Currently Amended) A device control method for controlling a plurality of devices, each being controlled by use of numerical parameters, comprising:

a speech recognition step of acquiring speech data representing a speech, and performing speech recognition on said speech data, thereby specifying a candidate for a phrase ~~represented~~ included by said speech and computing a likelihood for each specified candidate;
and

a device control step of specifying those devices which are controllable of said plurality of devices, and an amount of change of said numerical parameter based on the predetermined constant associated with the specified phrase and the likelihood that have been computed in said speech recognition step, and changing the numerical parameter by the specified amount of change to thereby control the specified devices, wherein ~~a variable to be changed to obtain a result desired by an utterer of said speech, a direction in which said variable is to be changed, and a device which is to be controlled to change said variable, based on said candidate specified by said speech recognition step and data indicating statuses of a plurality of external devices to be controlled, and controlling said specified device in such a way as to change said specified variable in said specified direction, wherein~~

in said device control step,

a device is controlled when a number of specified ~~devices which are controllable~~ in such a way as to change said specified variable in said specified direction is one, and

when there are a plurality of devices specified ~~controllable in such a way as to change said specified variable in said specified direction, which one of said controllable devices is desired to be operated is specified based on a candidate specified by further acquisition of speech data by said speech recognition means, and said specified device is controlled, said~~

speech recognition step further acquires speech data to specify a candidate for the phrase and computes the likelihood, and

said device control step specifies any one of the devices that are controllable, based on the predetermined constant associated with the specified phrase and the likelihood computed by said speech recognition means, and control said specified device.

7. (Currently Amended) A ~~computer~~ computer-readable recording medium storing a program which allows a computer that controls a plurality of devices by use of a numerical parameter, to execute:

a speech recognition step of acquiring speech data representing a speech, and performing speech recognition on said speech data, thereby specifying a candidate for a phrase represented included by said speech and computing a likelihood for each specified candidate;
and

a device control step of specifying those devices which are controllable of said plurality of devices, and an amount of change of said numerical parameter based on the predetermined constant associated with the specified phrase and the likelihood that have been computed by said speech recognition step, and changing the numerical parameter by the specified amount of change to thereby control the specified devices, wherein ~~a variable to be changed to obtain a result desired by an utterer or said speech, a direction in which said variable is to be changed, and a device which is to be controlled to change said variable, based on said candidate specified by said speech recognition step and data indicating statuses of a plurality of external devices to be controlled, and controlling said specified device in such a way as to change said specified variable in said specified direction, wherein~~

~~in said device control step,~~

said device control step controls ~~a device is controlled when a number of specified devices which are controllable in such a way as to change said specified variable in said specified direction is one, and~~

~~when there are a plurality of devices specified controllable in such a way as to change said specified variable in said specified direction, which of said controllable devices is desired to be operated is specified based on a candidate specified by further acquisition of speech~~

data by said speech recognition means, and said specified device is controlled, said speech recognition step further acquires speech data to specify a candidate for the phrase and computes the likelihood, and

said device control step specifies any one of the devices that are controllable, based on the predetermined constant associated with the specified phrase and the likelihood computed by said speech recognition means, and controls said specified device.

8. (New) The device control device according to claim 1, wherein

said device control means computes a value represented by the predetermined constant multiplied by said likelihood, and specifies said controllable device and the amount of change of said numerical parameter, based on a candidate for a phrase that corresponds to the largest of the values.